



The Rainbow Struggle: An international battle over gay rights A GlobalPost Special Report

South Africa — Corrective Rape The vicious stabbing of a young lesbian mobilizes Cape Town's LGBT activists to sound alarm on pernicious violence — including “corrective rape” — against women and children in the country's townships. With one of the world's most progressive constitutions, South Africa is known as “one of the best and one of the worst places in the world to be gay.” This story includes a complementary video about the unique challenges for transsexual workers in the country's legendary wine farms.

Turkey — Gay Honor Killing A man fights for justice in the murder of his gay lover, allegedly committed by the man's father — a gay “honor killing.” Turkish authorities have dragged their feet in the case, with the police failing to piece together evidence sitting right out in the open. The accused killer has fled to Iraq; meanwhile the gay community in Turkey grapples with the insidious trend of anti-gay violence committed by family members.

U.S. — Lt. Dan Choi profile As the U.S. military officially ends enforcement of its “Don't Ask, Don't Tell” policy on Sept. 20, lead anti-DADT activist Lt. Dan Choi remains on trial on trumped-up charges for his role in a White House protest and, like other soldiers discharged under the policy, has had his military disability benefits revoked. Facing months in prison and left without funding for PTSD treatments, Choi says the end of DADT leaves much unfinished in the battle for equal rights.

China — “Auntie Ou's and Her Gay Children” A motherly retiree uses the internet to counsel young gay men on coming out to their very traditional families. The piece explores the evolving attitudes of an older generation of Chinese, not educated about homosexuality as young people, and the pressure on gay Chinese men to have children.

Sweden — Transsexual Sterilization A beautiful transsexual actress lobbies the Swedish government to repeal a law forcing sterilization in exchange for government recognition of sex changes. Conservative religious and political forces support the existing law but the country stands on the brink of discarding it.

Spain — Challenging a reputation of tolerance Although a wave of progressive political sentiment helped legalize gay marriage in 2005, cementing Spain's reputation as a bastion of LGBT rights, a conservative countermovement now threatens to dismantle recent gains. One of the world's most Catholic countries, this is a pivotal location in the “rainbow struggle.”

Argentina — Gay Marriage Legalization: One year later One year ago, Argentina became the first South American country to legalize gay marriage. Through the eyes of one of the movement's architects, we look at how the new legislation came to be and what it has meant for the LGBT community. Does legalization ensure social equality? The piece includes exclusive photographs from inside the legalization movement.

Nepal — From Revolution to Criminalization A personable pro-rights leader reminiscent of Harvey Milk builds a gay tourism empire on the back of a revolution, challenging traditional values while winning decriminalization. Four years later, his opposition threatens to amend the country's unfinished constitution to recriminalize gay acts.

Lebanon — Middle Eastern Haven Dozens of persecuted LGBT refugees come to Beirut every year to escape violence. An inside look at what makes Lebanon unique and why time may be running out for victims of hate. This piece includes expert video commentary from key players.

Cambodia — Foreign tourism's power A whimsical piece about the way Western LGBT tourist dollars are changing Cambodians' understanding of homosexuality, and explaining the phenomenon of MSMs — men who sleep with men.

Turkey — An anti-gay military The Turkish military is fiercely anti-gay, requiring LGBT people to “prove” their sexual preference before being given a “rotten report” excusing them from service. As in Israel, failing to serve almost guarantees huge difficulties achieving professional success. This piece explores the humiliation and violence associated with officially sanctioned homophobia.

Ireland — Openly gay senator's failed presidential bid A few months ago, Sen. David Norris appeared on track to contend for the Irish presidency, in range to become the world's second openly gay head of state. But ill-advised comments about pedophilia and revelations about a former lover's sex with a minor charges derailed the campaign. An in-depth interview exploring what went wrong, and what it means for gay rights in Ireland.

Uganda — An architecture of hate The world is watching as the Ugandan government considers draconian measures against its gay citizens. Mob violence against LGBT people is common, stoked with encouragement from American Christian rightist groups who are working in the region. Now, a grassroots anti-hate movement has emerged to fight the Christian Right.

World — The Religious Right's anti-gay crusade A network of Christian organizations promoting “family values” have established gay “reeducation” programs in Hong Kong and held anti-LGBT rallies in Uganda. An investigation of these organizations' tactics and funding as they work to keep gays in the closet, in jail and even push for their deaths.

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An E-Press kit for The Rainbow Struggle Special Report can be found here:
<http://www.globalpost.com/rainbow-struggle-press-materials>

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